



# FORMAL REPORT

<b>To:</b>	Mayor Stratthdee and Members of Council
<b>From:</b>	Trisha McKibbin, Director of Corporate Services / Deputy Clerk
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	28 March 2017
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>COR 16-2017 Amendment to Heritage Grant Bylaw</b>

## PURPOSE

This report accompanies Bylaw 27-2017 that amends the Heritage Grant Bylaw to limit the awarding of funds under all eligible programs to a maximum grant of 50% of all eligible costs.

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT By-law 27-2017, being a bylaw to amend the Heritage Grant bylaw to include a statement limiting the awarding of funds under all eligible programs to a maximum grant of 50% of all eligible costs, be approved.

## BACKGROUND

As part of the 2016 Council discussions surrounding the Heritage Property Tax Relief Program, the funding of the Heritage Grant program and the Community Improvement Plan grant for Façade Improvements were discussed.

At the September 20, 2016 Strategic Priorities Committee the Committee passed a resolution, which was then approved by Council, to limit the maximum grant funds awarded to one project in the case where both grant programs were awarded.

### **Resolution 2016-09-20-04**

**Moved By:** Councillor Van Galen

**Seconded By:** Councillor Osborne

THAT staff be directed to amend the existing grant programs to limit the maximum grant to 50% under all eligible programs.

**CARRIED**

## REPORT

The Town offers two financial incentive programs to eligible properties located within the Central Commercial District and the Heritage Conservation District. The Town has supported the Façade Improvement Grant Program under the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) since 2007 and the Designated Heritage Property Grant program since 2009. A change to the Façade Improvement Grant Program under the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) to prevent either the stacking of grants

or to consolidate the programs is deemed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to be a change integral to the award of grant monies. This would require an Amendment to the Façade Improvement CIP under the *Ontario Planning Act*. An amendment of the CIP would be significant, and would require a Public Open House, a Public Meeting and resources of approximately \$1,500 for advertising to meet legislation. For that reason, it was determined that an amendment to the Designated Heritage Grant would be the most practical and convenient method to fulfill Council's direction because the amendment process is simply a by-law amendment.

An amendment to the Designated Heritage Properties grant would limit total funding received from both grants simultaneously up to a total amount of 50% of all eligible project costs. This amendment would enable the grant funding provided by the Town to be utilized by a greater number of properties, while still providing significant financial support and incentive.

## **SUMMARY**

This report provides information on Bylaw 27-2017 which amends the Heritage Property Grant to limit the maximum grant dollars awarded to a project under all eligible programs (Façade Improvement Grant and Heritage Grant) to 50% of total eligible project costs.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **OTHERS CONSULTED**

Susan Luckhardt, Planning Coordinator  
Grant Brouwer, Director of Building & Development

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None

Respectfully submitted,



Trisha McKibbin  
Director of Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk



Brent Kittmer  
CAO / Clerk